



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

April 9, 1982

PRESIDENT

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Mr. Edwin C. Whitehead
Technicon Instruments Corporation
Tarrytown, New York 10591

Dear Jack:

For some weeks I have wanted to send you a message of congratulations on the establishment of the Whitehead Institute. I waited to be sure that all the dust, so needlessly thrown into people's eyes, had settled at MIT.

So now, congratulations!

It is insufferable that your philanthropic motives in establishing this magnificent institute should have been so often misconstrued, and particularly that it has gotten caught up into the general discussion of industry-university relationships. Would that those commercial contracts had the altruistic motive of the Whitehead Institute! I want you to know that I have taken every possible occasion to correct these misconceptions; but the malicious gossip-monger always has an advantage in exciting the prurient interest of the media.

I am very pleased that the matter has now finally crystallized and that you and David can go ahead with the real business of the promotion of such an exciting area of biological research.

I also have your letter of resignation from The Rockefeller University Council. I really wonder if we should accept that, since I believe you are still closer to New York than to Cambridge. You are likely to enjoy the meetings we have from time to time as well as find them instructive and interesting from a scientific standpoint. I promise that I will not twist your arm in future, as any condition of that membership; and I would like you to know that we would be proud to have you continue on our roster. If nothing else this may ensure at least a few occasions at which you and I can continue our own discussions.

CC: RN
FL
(personal)

Mr. Edwin C. Whitehead
April 9, 1982

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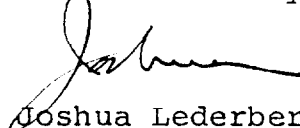
I would however like to urge you not to take quite so completely single-minded an approach as you articulated in your letter. Of course the Whitehead Institute deserves every bit of energy and resource that you can afford to give to it; and I believe that you know that I have been your advocate, and have tried to think as clearly as I could about your own objectives, in the help that I offered to you in its organization. On the other hand, I believe you would acknowledge that you have some debts elsewhere, and that fulfilling them would also be consonant with your fundamental objectives in the establishment of the institute. Over the years, many people at this University have extended themselves at great length in offering their assistance to you. While their motives may have included some hope that The Rockefeller might be a primary designee for siting the institute, this was by no means their only consideration. And I believe you know that it played a minor part in my own efforts on your behalf. Conversely I believe that the University can offer a way to extend even further honor and recognition to your own name and I have both unselfish and selfish reasons to wish that to happen.

In particular I am urging you to give your serious consideration to the possibility of establishing an Edwin C. Whitehead Professorial Chair at this institution, which would entail an endowment commitment (and we understand you might be obliged to extend the period of payment) of \$1.5 million. Double that sum would encompass what it takes to establish the laboratory, as well as endow the professorship; but I realize there are limits to what you might wish to do and I would hesitate to transgress them.

Jack I really don't think this is an unreasonable request to make of you; you really should be able to accommodate it within the general framework of your general philanthropic interests -- and if need be, we would certainly be willing to wait until Revlon stock recovers its rightful valuation before the final arrangements are consummated.

Finally to show that we do not often come empty handed, I am delighted indeed to enclose this letter from Stan Moore about a historic fraction collector, and on behalf of the University to authorize the transfer of that equipment as requested.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg